GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1910
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2007
SUPPLY OF LPG CYLINDERS
Barman Shri Hiten

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of West Bengal population being served by LPG as on 31st October 2007;

(b) the time by when entire State of West Bengal are proposed to be provided with LPG cylinders;

(c) whether the Government propose to give some concession in the gas cylinders to poor families in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) & (b) : As on 01.10.2007, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) were serving 49.6 lakh domestic LPG customers in the State of West Bengal, covering 31.3% of population, as per census of 2001.
OMCs have finalized a common industry-marketing plan covering 64 locations in the State of West Bengal for setting up of new LPG distributorships. Advertisement for the same has since been released on 16.09.2007 and the last date was 07.11.2007.

(c) to (e) : The Government is giving subsidy on domestic LPG cylinders, all over the country. In the recent years, the international prices of petroleum products have increased manifold but OMCs have not increased the price of domestic LPG. From the Budget, Government provides a subsidy of Rs. 22.58 per 14.2 kg. domestic LPG cylinder, while the OMCs provide a subsidy of Rs. 165.36 per 14.2 kg. cylinder, making for a total subsidy of Rs. 187.94 per 14.2 kg cylinder (during the period April -September, 2007). As on 30.10.2007, the OMCs suffered under-recoveries of Rs. 215.10 per 14.2 kg. domestic LPG cylinder. However, Government and Oil PSUs are absorbing the burden exerted by the high international oil prices.